

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating manure comprising:
 - a) mixing a quantity of manure with lime such that said mixture has a pH above 11.0 and ammonia is volatilized within said mixture;
 - b) drawing off ammonia volatilized from said mixture during mixing,thereby producing deodorized and sterilized manure;
 - bc) adding a ~~first coagulant~~ cationic, anionic or non-ionic flocculating or coagulating polymer to said deodorized and sterilized manure mixture, thereby producing a slurry comprising a floc portion and a liquid portion ~~promoting floc formation within said mixture;~~
 - de) separating the floc portion from the liquid portion of the slurry mixture,
~~thereby forming solids and a liquid portion;~~
 - ed) adding MgCl₂, MgSO₄, MgCO₃ or magnesium oxide ~~a second coagulant and a struvite promoting compound~~ to said liquid portion, thereby promoting formation of struvite-containing flocs within the liquid portion ~~forming solids and clear liquid;~~ and
 - fe) separating the struvite-containing flocs from the liquid portion ~~clear liquid from the solids.~~
2. (original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the manure is selected from the group consisting of hog manure, feedlot manure, dairy cow manure and chicken manure.
3. cancelled
4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the pH is above 11.5
5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the pH is between 11.5-12.5.

6. cancelled.
7. cancelled
8. cancelled
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11. cancelled
12. cancelled
13. cancelled
14. cancelled
15. cancelled
16. cancelled
17. cancelled

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the lime and manure is mixed vigorously for several hours.

19. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein evolved gases from step (ab) are removed under negative pressure.

20. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein in step (ed), the floc portion is separated from the ~~mixture~~ liquid portion of the slurry by mixing the ~~mixture~~ slurry until the floc portion becomes stable and a layer of clear liquid begins to form at the top of the slurry~~mixture~~.